

Appl. No. 10/820557  
Amdt. Dated 3-11-06  
Reply to Office Action of 12-08-05

### **Amendments to the Claims**

The current listing of claims replaces all previous versions of the claims.

### **Listing of Claims**

1. (currently amended) An apparatus positionable across a window and for concealing an interior space from being viewed from an exterior thereof, said apparatus comprising:

a body having a centrally disposed longitudinal axis and oppositely spaced side portions equally spaced therefrom, said side portions extending substantially parallel to the axis along a length of said body, said body being formed from one-way viewing material for providing a line of sight extending outwardly through a window but not extending inwardly therethrough;

a plurality of brackets secured to a stationary surface adjacent a window and being disposed at opposed corners thereof; and

a plurality of elongated rods vertically oriented and attached to said opposed side portions of said body, said plurality of rods having opposed end portions engageable with said plurality of brackets respectively, one said plurality of rods being movable substantially transversely to the axis between expanded and retracted positions for moving said body between stretched and non-stretched positions respectively.

2. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein select ones of said plurality of brackets have a plurality of notches formed therein for simultaneously supporting said plurality of rods during non-use conditions.

3. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said plurality of brackets comprise:

a flange portion having an aperture for receiving a fastening member therethrough respectively; and

an arcuate portion integral with said flange portion and for defining a slot through which said plurality of rods can be positioned respectively.

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4. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said plurality of rods are formed to have substantially similar lengths and diameters respectively.

5. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said body is wound about one said plurality of rods.

6. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said body is formed from plastic.

7. (currently amended) An apparatus positionable across a window and for concealing an interior space from being viewed from an exterior thereof, said apparatus comprising:

a body having a centrally disposed longitudinal axis and oppositely spaced side portions equally spaced therefrom, said side portions extending substantially parallel to the axis along a length of said body, said body being formed from one-way viewing material for providing a line of sight extending outwardly through a window but not extending inwardly therethrough;

a plurality of brackets secured to a stationary surface adjacent a window and being disposed at opposed corners thereof; and

a plurality of elongated rods vertically oriented and attached to said opposed side portions of said body, said plurality of rods having opposed end portions engageable with said plurality of brackets respectively, one said plurality of rods being movable substantially transversely to the axis between expanded and retracted positions for moving said body between stretched and non-stretched positions respectively;

one said plurality of brackets having a plurality of notches formed therein for simultaneously supporting said plurality of rods during non-use conditions.

8. (original) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein said plurality of brackets comprise:

a flange portion having an aperture for receiving a fastening member therethrough respectively; and

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an arcuate portion integral with said flange portion and for defining a slot through which said plurality of rods can be positioned respectively.

9. (original) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein said plurality of rods are formed to have substantially similar lengths and diameters respectively.

10. (original) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein said body is wound about one said plurality of rods.

11. (original) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein said body is formed from plastic.

12. (currently amended) An apparatus positionable across a window and for concealing an interior space from being viewed from an exterior thereof, said apparatus comprising:

a body having a centrally disposed longitudinal axis and oppositely spaced side portions equally spaced therefrom, said side portions extending substantially parallel to the axis along a length of said body, said body being formed from one-way viewing material for providing a line of sight extending outwardly through a window but not extending inwardly therethrough;

a plurality of brackets secured to a stationary surface adjacent a window and being disposed at opposed corners thereof; and

a plurality of elongated rods having substantially similar lengths and diameters and being vertically oriented and attached to said opposed side portions of said body, said plurality of rods having opposed end portions engageable with said plurality of brackets respectively, one said plurality of rods being movable substantially transversely to the axis between expanded and retracted positions for moving said body between stretched and non-stretched positions respectively;

one said plurality of brackets having a plurality of notches formed therein for simultaneously supporting said plurality of rods during non-use conditions;

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another one of said plurality of rods being statically conjoined to said one plurality of brackets in such a manner that said another rod remains stationary as said one rod is traversed towards and away therefrom;

wherein said plurality of brackets comprise

a flange portion having an aperture for receiving a fastening member therethrough respectively, and

an arcuate portion integral with said flange portion and for defining a slot through which said plurality of rods can be positioned respectively;

wherein said body is wound about said one rod;

said one rod being juxtaposed adjacent to said another rod at one side of the window after said one rod is traversed to said another rod;

wherein each bottom end of said plurality of rods are countersunk into selected ones of said plurality of notches while each top end of said plurality of rods are exposed above associated ones of said plurality of notches.

13. (canceled)

14. (canceled)

15. (original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein said body is formed from plastic.